

# AMAA news



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## Worship Service at Camp AREV

## AMAA NEWS

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Children at Camp Bedrosian in Shushi, Karabagh

## Editorial Message

### Called to be Humble as a Child, You and I Called to Welcome a Child, You and I

**Levon Filian**

**W**e have at least two examples of how Jesus deals with children. In one episode, Jesus calls a child to teach a lesson about greatness; and, in another, He teaches us how to value and welcome a child.

*"Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me."* **Matthew 18: 4-5**

*"People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them."* **Mark 10: 13-16**

In these two episodes, we meet several people and can learn from them all.

**We learn from parents:** They loved their children and made an effort to bring their children to experience the presence of Jesus. They wanted their children to see Him, learn from Him, be touched and blessed by Him. Let us be such parents.

**We learn from the actions of disciples:** Whatever their intentions were, (good or bad), they were reprimanded by Jesus for not allowing children to come to Jesus. Let us not hold back children from coming to Jesus.

**We learn from Jesus:** He called them, took children in His arms, put His hands on them and blessed them. Let us do likewise.

**We learn about greatness:** Greatness lies in obedience and humility. Let us become obedient and humble.

You and I are invited today to seek true greatness in His kingdom by being obedient and humble as a child. You and I are asked to welcome a child in His name.

At the AMAA, we are making every effort to follow Jesus' command to welcome children in His name. We dedicate this issue of the AMAA News by welcoming children in our vacation bible schools and summer camps around the world. We thank God for giving us the opportunity to serve Him in this capacity in the following countries:

- |             |                  |
|-------------|------------------|
| 1. Armenia  | 6. Iran          |
| 2. Karabagh | 7. Lebanon       |
| 3. Belgium  | 8. Syria         |
| 4. Bulgaria | 9. United States |
| 5. France   |                  |

We welcome you to commit yourself to being humble as a child and to receive the Kingdom of God. We also invite you to welcome children in His name, sponsor them, and bless them.

We thank God for all the parents who bring their children to the camps to meet Jesus and be blessed by Him. We thank our camp counselors, teachers and volunteers who serve in our camps. We thank our sponsors who support these camps financially and with their prayers. □



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# AMAA Summer Camps

Highlights From Summer of 2010

Summer Camps, sponsored by the AMAA, have made a significant difference in the lives of thousands of Armenian children and their families for many years.

During the summer months, camps are offered in Armenia, Shushi, Karabagh, Iran, Lebanon, France, Belgium, Bulgaria and Syria. There are also two camps in the United States – Camp Arevelk on the East Coast and Camp AREV on the West Coast.

Many Armenian families cannot afford to send their children to camp because of the poor economic conditions they face. To help these families have an opportunity to have a safe, healthy and religious camping experience for their children, the AMAA, together with Armenian Evangelical Churches, organizes and supports Camps and Daily Vacation Bible Schools.

Children come to camp to learn, enhance their talents, socialize, gain exposure to Armenian national culture and receive nourishment and nurturing in a Christian atmosphere.

The following reports are from the camps which were part of this year's AMAA Summer Camp Programs.

## Armenia and Karabagh

The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) and the Evangelical Churches of Armenia (ECA) established summer camps to provide a safe and Christian environment for poor children.

Here, children are given a routine physical exam by medical doctors and they are provided with clothing and shoes to use and to take home with them. They are also provided with hygiene items.

The camp concept started in 1990 and vacation bible school programs began in 1991. In 2003, campgrounds were purchased and established in Hankavan, Armenia and Shushi, Karabagh. The Hankavan Camp was sponsored by the Sheen family and named Camp Sheen-Shoghik.

The Shushi camp was named Camp Bedrosian, in honor of its sponsors, the Bedrosian Family.

Both campgrounds have been remodeled and refurbished making the camps safe, attractive, inviting and functional. Dormitories were remodeled, new kitchens and bathrooms installed, cafeterias refurbished and new bunk beds and mattresses were purchased.



**Children in Camp Sheen-Shoghik (above 3 pictures)**



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The camp activities include providing nutritional meals, sports, arts and crafts, bible studies, workshops, first aid training, Armenian Christian songs and sharagans.

In 2010, the AMAA/ECA organized two summer camps:

- **Camp Sheen Shoghik**, During its 64 days of operation, the camp served a total of 1,700 children and youth and 120 camp counselors. The camp provided:
  - one four-day session for camp counselors training and planning.
  - four, seven-day sessions for children (ages 8-12); 175 campers each session for a total of 700.
  - four, five-day sessions for teens (ages 13-16); 175 campers each session for a total of 700.
  - two, four-day sessions for young adults (ages 17-25) which had 300 participants.
- **Camp Bedrosian**, Shushi, Karabagh: During its 35 days of operation, the camp served a total of 665 children and youth and 23 camp staff. The camp provided:
  - one, two-day session for camp counselors training and planning.
  - four, six-day sessions for children (ages 8-12); 110 campers in each session for a total of 440.
  - one, six-day session for teens (ages 13-16); 115 campers.
  - one, four-day session for youth (ages 17-25); 110 campers.



**Children at Camp Bedrosian in Shushi, Karabagh**



*DVBS in Abovyan, Armenia*

The campers belong to one of three categories:

- a) Participants in AMAA's Child Sponsorship Program.
- b) Participants in ECA Christian Education Programs.
- c) Needy children referred by various government agencies (e.g. Ministry of Social Affairs, local governments, etc.).

Bible lessons are designed to meet the campers' spiritual and emotional needs.

- The children's theme includes topics such as: "Who is God?", "Jesus loves and accepts", "What has Jesus done?", "Jesus is alive." The goal is to insure that children understand that Jesus is the Savior of all people and that they should avoid sin, and if they confess their sins, Jesus will forgive them.
- The teens' theme was: "Teens in the Bible." The goal was for teens to understand that parents are given by God and they should respect and obey them.
- The youth theme was about the necessity of eternal life. The goal for every youth is to know that God provides everything needed to overcome the difficulties of spiritual life.

The children are also taught to become proud citizens, to love their country and their rich heritage. They learn about their heroes, scientists, political and religious leaders. They also learn about their cultural heroes in art, music and poetry.

We are most grateful for the many partners that contribute towards and participate in these summer programs. Among our partners are:

- Jinishian Memorial Fund, which has been a faithful partner in the AMAA camp programs for many years. It contributes financially and by supplying food and other items.
- Dorcas Aid International of Holland and Service d'Entraide et de Liaison of France, which has made generous financial contributions towards the camp ministries.



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*DVBS in Sdepanavan, Armenia*

- Hope for Armenia of France, which organized day camps in Sptiak, Nalband, and Sisian.
- Christian Camps International, which provided training to our camp counselors.
- The Bedrosian family, which has faithfully supported Camp Bedrosian for many years.

We are very grateful to the AMAA office staff in Paramus and AMAA friends who worked hard at collecting, packing and sending various supplies (e.g. clothing, arts and crafts material, games, and much more). In addition, we thank the members of the Summer Camp and Christmas Committee and the Orphan and Child Care Committee for their tireless fundraising efforts on behalf of the children.

We want to express our appreciation to the staff of the AMAA Armenia offices. Their help in accounting, purchasing, and other logistics matters made the summer camps possible. We thank God for the AMAA Board of Directors, its leadership and the many AMAA friends and supporters who contributed to our camps through their prayers, donations and services.



*DVBS in Byureghavan, Armenia*

Last, yet most important, we thank God for the spiritual and material blessings enjoyed at the camps.

### Belgium



Again this year, over 130 Armenian-speaking people got together from June 11-13 in Belgium for a family camp. Over 120 Turkish-speaking Armenians also got together from June 18-20. The participants came from various parts of Europe, including Germany, France and Holland. Spiritual meetings as well as games and activities were enjoyed by all who attended.

### France



This year, our summer camp was attended by hundreds of children and about 200 families. The camps focus on teaching the word of God and include many social and sports activities. We thank God for giving us the opportunity to serve Him and we pray that the seeds we plant in the hearts of camp participants bear fruit.



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### Iran

During the summer of 2010, the Armenian Evangelical Church in Iran held three different camps.

The Youth and Junior Youth Camps took place from July 15-20. "Growing in Faith" was the theme of the camp which was led by Rev. Michael Aghamalian, Rev. Souren Sarkisian, Rev. Robert Asszyan and Brother Vazrig Safaryan. Over 30 children participated in the camp activities.

From July 20-24, a Family Conference took place with 37 people in attendance. The topic of the camp was "The Parables of Jesus: Lord Help Me to Know You and Change My Life." Leaders of the Conference were Rev. Sergei Shahvertian, Rev. Michael Aghamalian, Rev. Ninous Moghata and Rev. Souren Sarkisian.

The Children's Camp was held July 24-29. Over 20 campers participated in the program which included exercise, prayer time, Bible study, singing, arts and crafts and film.

### Lebanon



In the past, the Summer Camps were held at KCHAG, the popular Christian Camp in Lebanon, where hundreds of Armenian children, youth and adult campers had inspiring experiences. The Camp, located on the beautiful Monte Verde (Green Mountain) overlooking Beirut, is a five acre area covered by green cedar trees. Unfortunately, the Camp

property and buildings, including the chapel, dining hall and cabins, were heavily damaged during the Lebanese Civil War. The AMAA, which has supported this Camp for many years, would like to see this camp rebuilt.

This year, the camps were held at the Armenian Evangelical Church in Ainjar, Lebanon. Seventy-seven children, ages 8 to 12, attended the Children's Summer Camp that took place July 19-26.

The Camp's theme this year was "Yegek Vazenk Tebi..." ("Let Us Run Towards..."), and the camp was led by Hagop Akbashian, a Union theology student.

Each day began with exercise sessions, followed by breakfast, quiet time and a worship and Psalm learning session. Mr. Akbashian presented a daily lesson which was followed by a workshop related to the daily topic. These "Let Us Run Towards...." lessons were:

Day 1: "Badganelioutioun" ("belongingness...to the group of Jesus")

Day 2: "Ser" ("Love...I should love those around me")

Day 3: "Kntag" ("the Ball"...representing "the Bible")

Day 4: "Marzich" ("Coach"...representing "Jesus Christ")

Day 5: "Nbadag" ("Purposel" = "Living with Christ").

The children then participated in six different clubs: sports, crafts, drawing, dancing, music and reading. Following lunch, the children had rest and quiet free time before participating in outdoor games (tele match, ice breakers, water games and field games). At 6:30 p.m. there was daily prayer time and dinner. The evening sessions were dedicated to either indoor games or other creative quality time. A puppet show at the end of each day summarized the daily quiet time theme.

This year, the Junior's Youth Camp of the Armenian Evangelical Christian Endeavor Union was held July 12-19. Fifty-eight Juniors, ages 13-16, came from all of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in Lebanon to participate. Pastor Datev Basmadjian of the Armenian Evangelical Church in Damascus was the featured speaker. Pastor Basmadjian and seven counselors led the Camp.

The Camp's theme, "WAKA WAKA", was inspired by the Soccer World Cup of 2010 in South Africa and means "go forward and do it." The Juniors were challenged to live up to their faith and practice the Christian principles that they learned during Camp and in their churches.

The themes for each day were:

Day 1: Principles (with the Bible being the source)

Day 2: Peer pressure

Day 3: Sin

Day 4: Fear

Day 5: Jesus as our Coach

The Camp started each morning with warm up exercises followed by breakfast and quiet time with God. After the theme was presented, the Juniors were divided into Bible

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study groups to reflect on the questions raised during the presentations. After lunch, the group was divided into four workshop groups: cooking, acting, dancing and video clip. They also worked on the talent show which took place the last day of Camp.

### Camp AREV in California

**Name:** The name Camp AREV was derived by joining the first two letters of Armenian and Evangelical. The intent was to follow Jesus' command to be the light for Jesus. "In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16

**History:** Camp AREV is a 44 acre facility in the Sierra Madres north of Los Angeles, CA. Camp AREV has been bringing groups of Armenian Evangelicals together since the late 1970s at various locations throughout California. Camp AREV is a ministry of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America (AEUNA), which initiated the purchase of the present facility in 1992. As an organization of the AEUNA, Camp AREV is one of its largest and most vital means of Evangelism.

**Attendance:** Each year, Camp AREV hosts between 400-700 campers through one of the summer or winter programs for Juniors, Junior High, High School and College students and also adults at our Men's Retreat. The camp facilities accommodate approximately 20 AEUNA member churches and other Christian organizations which run their own events throughout the year.

In 2010, Camp AREV had camper attendance in the following age groups:

Juniors (4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> grade): 43 campers

Junior High (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade): 105 campers

High School (9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grade): 123 campers

College (18 – 29 years): 75 campers

Campers and counselors are mainly from local Armenian Evangelical Churches from California. Camp AREV welcomes the opportunity to minister to students who come from Sahag-Mesrob Armenian Christian School, the Merdian School, and other Armenian and public schools. These campers come from various Evangelical, Armenian Apostolic and Catholic churches.

**Main Activities:** The Purpose Statement of Camp AREV is to draw campers into relationship with Christ and with others as they develop an appreciation for the outdoors, Armenian heritage and for service to the Lord. Some of the specific programs which are offered in an attempt to meet these goals include: sound Biblical teaching, times of worship, small group discussions, outdoor games, recreational activities, Armenian cultural activities, and much more. These activities allow for campers to spend time reflecting on who God is, build relationships with



those around them, explore new activities in a beautiful setting, learn more about what it means to be Armenian, and have opportunities to serve their peers.

**Campers were asked: What does Camp AREV mean to you?**

***Daniel Khushigian, First Armenian Presbyterian Church, Fresno:***

A place of relaxation, fellowship, fun, and a place to strengthen your relationship with the Lord.

***Jenny Balabanian, Calvary Armenian Congregational Church, San Francisco:***

To me, Camp AREV is a place away from civilization where all distractions are gone and I can just focus on God. It is a place where all my questions get answered and I feel like all the counselors are there to help me grow in my faith. Camp is a place where I end up making my closest friends and I always seem to love God even more after every session.

***Karnik Hajjar, St. Sarkis Church, Pasadena:***

It means a lot of things to me. I love to go and just be who I am. To me, it also means that I can learn what it means to truly be a Christian.

***Taline Ketenjian, United Armenian Congregational Church, Los Angeles:***

To me, it means that we meet together to learn about and worship the Lord.

**Significant Changes:** God has been truly faithful to not only meet our daily needs, but also to move this ministry forward in service to Him. Through the vision of the AEUNA and the Camp Committee, Camp AREV is currently entering the completion of three brand new structures. The project includes a Chapel, Fellowship Hall and Infirmary. These buildings have been designed to be in harmony with the surrounding nature. The Darakjian Chapel enables us to host



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over 150 people for teaching and celebration of our Lord's grace. The 5,000 sq. ft. building has a distinctive copula with a cross which provides natural lighting and an Armenian accent. The Derian-Jambazian Fellowship Hall has an identical 5,000 sq. ft. footprint and includes a commercial-sized kitchen and a convertible dining space which opens into a large patio through folding glass doors. The Hassessian Infirmary enables Camp AREV to have space to treat our campers in the event of an emergency. These new buildings will boost the Camp's existing program and provide space to accommodate additional church events.

**Supervisors:** The Camp operates under the guidance of the Camp Committee, its directors, facility managers, support staff and volunteers. As Program Director, Jennifer Abadjian develops and executes the Camp AREV program. This includes lining up speakers, training counselors and other volunteers, publicizing the camp through AEUNA member churches, developing the program schedule and coordinating all activities. As Operations Director, Shogher Shanoian manages the Camp AREV office and is the liaison to the facilities. Shogher is also responsible for fundraising and community relations. During this past year, the Camp has enjoyed the support of Elise Kalfayan and Armine Nahigian who have provided valuable services in support of rentals and administration. The facilities are managed by Theresa and Lance Legault who also act as our Hosts for rentals. Direction and executive decisions for Camp AREV are provided by the Camp AREV Committee which meets monthly. The Chair of the Committee is Hreir Sagherian.

**Supporters:** Camp AREV strives to support the local youth groups by providing a camp experience that will augment their ministry. It encourages campers who do not attend a church to be connected with a church near their home. It is our prayer that no camper would leave the camp without a body of believers to continue with when they go home.

The Lord's work at Camp AREV relies on the willingness of volunteers who serve tirelessly. Donor support of Camp AREV carries nearly half of the annual budget. The Camp is grateful for the cheerful giving of several generous donors, those who participate in annual fund raisers, "Friends of Camp AREV" who donate monthly, as well as annual grants from organizations such as the AMAA.

Aside from financial support, the Camp enjoys a strong



community which turns the ministry goals into a reality. There are numerous ways that people have partnered with Camp AREV, including a commitment to pray for our daily needs, volunteering to help at camp, serving on one of the committees and being a liaison to keep the church body informed of what is going on at camp. The Camp's goal is to keep the Armenian Evangelical Community "Informed, Involved, & Invested" in the decisions that are made for Christ every year.

For the building project, we thank the Lord for the generous contributions of Mr. and Mrs. Henry and Anahis Derian as well as Drs. Hrair and Nadia Darakjian. Each family has donated/pledged \$450,000. The project has also received benevolent contributions (\$25,000 or more) from Rev. Herald Hassessian and family, Dr. Michael Missakian, Mr. and Mrs. Suren and Alice Kaloostian, the Stephen Philibosian Foundation and TF Educational Foundation. Many other donors have helped us approach the funding necessary for the completion of this project – too many to list. While most of the funding to complete the buildings and secure occupancy is in place, we are still seeking to raise another \$300,000 for furnishings, accessories and payment of the construction loan.

**Unique experiences:** The bonds of friendship created at Camp AREV have been a strong stimulus for youth to encourage each other toward higher learning, community service and long-term relationships including marriage. A few Camp AREV alumni have entered into seminary and are currently serving the Lord as pastors and teachers. Several Armenian Evangelical Churches count on camp alumni for their boards of directors, deacons and lay leadership.



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God has truly moved through the ministry at Camp AREV in great ways. Each year, campers share their testimony of how their relationship with Christ began at camp. Leaders are being trained at camp as young people step into positions of kitchen staff, counselors, worship leaders, and program staff. Over time, people in the camp community transition from campers to staff, from staff to parents of campers, and eventually to supporters and donors of the camp. It is exciting to watch the enthusiasm with which these alumni support the ministry taking place at Camp AREV.

**Future Plans:** Camp AREV eagerly anticipates the completion of the new buildings. A Dedication Ceremony for the new buildings is scheduled for October 30, 2010. We look forward to celebrating their completion with you and our supporters throughout California and the West Coast.

The new buildings will greatly transform our fall/winter programs including the Men's Retreat and Winter Camp. Several churches are looking to benefit from the expanded facilities to accommodate their events. Camp AREV looks forward to supporting the extended ministry of these churches.

**Thanks:** We are so grateful for the generous support that the AMAA has provided to Camp AREV in assisting with our financial needs, and in helping others to know about the exciting ministry that takes place on the West Coast.

For more information about Camp AREV's upcoming events (Dedication Ceremony, Men's Retreat, Winter Camp) or inquiries regarding rentals, please call the Camp AREV office: (818) 507-0922 or email: [info@camparev.org](mailto:info@camparev.org).

### Camp Arevelk in New York

Under clear skies and in a heavenly setting, 70 campers and 30 staff members celebrated another successful Camp Arevelk season. Camp was held the week of August 8-14 at the Ararat Youth and Conference Center in Greenville, NY.

A summer tradition for many AEYF East Coast youth, Camp Arevelk is a ministry of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America with support from the AMAA and the AEYF. The camp is for boys and girls, ages 10-16. Campers come from all the New England states as well as from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Montreal and Toronto. Camp Director Silvia Jizmejian and AEUNA Minister to Youth Ara Jizmejian, supervised their 11<sup>th</sup> camp season.

This year, the campers were moved to action by the words of Chahe Bekmazjian. Chahe shared his testimony of being an atheist and making fun of believers until he gave his life to Jesus at age 17. He now serves on the Worship Team and is a board member at the First Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal. Chahe was a youth leader in the church for many years and easily connected with our young people. His message inspired and empowered them to understand that God desires them to share their gifts and spread God's Word at any stage of their life, including their youth. Even though they are young, they should set an example for believers in speech, love, life and purity. "One of my greatest passions is to see young people on fire for God," shared Chahe.

The Camp Arevelk Committee would like to thank the volunteers, staff and supporters who make camp possible each year.

This summer ministry reaches youth who are often not served by local Armenian churches. The week long interaction among the youth bonds them in their unified love of Christ and nourishes them to go back to their communities to be strong servants in His name. The friendships built during these weeks continue and develop through the year during the many conferences of the AEYF Eastern Region. We thank God for this ministry and thank the AMAA, the AEUNA and the AEYF for their ongoing support. □



*Camp Arevelk in New York*



## Dr. John Markarian - A Most Unforgettable Character Celebrating Haigazian University's Founding President's Legacy and Haigazian University's 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Hagop Terjimanian\*

*"Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13*

Haigazian University was named after Dr. Armenag Haigazian, a distinguished educator. Early in 1954, Mrs. Mary Haigazian Mehagian with her husband, Mr. Avak Steven Mehagian, made a contribution to the AMAA for a college. Soon thereafter, Mr. Stephen Philibosian, Rev. Puzant Kalfayan and others contributed to the birth and growth of Haigazian University.

In 1955, under the leadership of Dr. John Markarian as its first President, the College opened its doors to accept 43 students, three full-time and five part-time faculty and staff. Its mission was to become a liberal arts college and to assist in the preparation of teachers and ministers.

Somehow, being one of the graduates of Haigazian has been a blessing for me and for the countless graduates from all walks of life. They came from different backgrounds and nationalities and from many regions of the Middle East, all of whom had this tremendous opportunity for higher education. I have fond memories of the Haigazian "family" and Dr. John Markarian, who was the founding President of Haigazian.

I cannot help but associate Dr. Markarian with so many unforgettable episodes, such as the daily chapel services, the Friday nights, the Bible Study fever, the sing along on Saturday nights, the retreats at KCHAG, the Christmas parties, the launching of the first Armenian-Lebanese rocket, and the spectacular launching of the successful careers of young men and women. No other institution of higher learning has given Armenian communities throughout the Diaspora so many distinguished leaders, teachers, principals, pastors, social workers and business professionals as Haigazian University has.

When the students arrived at Haigazian University, Dr. Markarian was always ready to meet them personally. In every way, he was a true Renaissance personality. He was so honestly simple, singularly magnanimous, outspokenly cosmopolitan and outrageously humorous.

He knew every student and he enjoyed student talk. To a student with a serious financial difficulty, he was the softest touch on campus. He was sincerely every student's friend and he never missed an opportunity to join them either in private counseling or in group sports. To all of us, he was a terrific guy. We loved him and trusted him to the point of rever-

ence. He was the "Real McCoy." Yet, Dr. Markarian was at his best as a teacher. As students, we were overwhelmed by his lectures on any subject, especially philosophy, religion and education.

Not only did he enlighten us, he also entertained us. When lecturing, he started with a few laughs, and then he got serious. He would look at us provocatively and with smiles, he would continue to talk and pour his knowledge with power. He would gesticulate and in a cool musical tempo, he would move us. At the end, we knew it was all worth it. Dr. Markarian had a finely tuned sense of values. He had patience, enthusiasm, and the magic gift of making the learner want to reach beyond oneself to new insights and new awareness.

Haigazian graduates are forever grateful to this great man. After Jesus, the person who has done more to the cause of the Christian faith has been Saint Paul. Paul roughed out the Christian doctrine, organized churches, and evangelized in a marvel of energy. Perhaps in a similar way, though more humbly, Dr. Markarian has to his credit marvels of energy in building up American-Armenian-Lebanese higher education and educating a multitude of teachers and community leaders during his rewarding years of stewardship.

Please pray for Haigazian, and for the World: "Prayer invites God to let Divine Presence suffuse our spirits, to let the Divine will prevail in our lives. Prayer cannot bring water to parched fields, nor mend a broken bridge, nor rebuild a ruined city; but prayer can water an arid soul, mend a broken heart, and rebuild a weakened will."

Many more thanks to Rev. Dr. Paul Haidostian, the current President.

*"It's a gift to be simple, it's a gift to be free,  
It's a gift to come down where we are to be,  
And when we find ourselves in a place just right  
It will be in the valley of love and delight."*

*(A Shaker hymn)*

*Hagop Terjimanian is a former Professor at Haigazian University.*



**Dr. John Markarian**



## Congratulations to Haigazian University

Vartan Gregorian\*

**T**he year 1955, when I graduated from Collège Arménien in Beirut, Lebanon, was also the year that Haigazian College was founded. At that time, there were already a number of Armenian, French, Arab and American colleges and universities in Beirut, hence, there were those who questioned the need for yet another institution. Was it justified to create “unnecessary” competition? That question can now be answered.

For me, the story of Haigazian University is the story of a miracle. Through the devotion of the members of its successive Boards of Trustees, the dedicated leadership of its outstanding presidents – most especially, its current president, Rev. Dr. Paul Haidostian – it has risen from its humble beginnings to attain great academic stature and become competitive with the top institutions of higher education in Beirut. I would even say that, in many ways, Haigazian University stands alone among its peers because it offers a unique combination of Armenian culture along with Arab and American traditions and cultures. While always safeguarding academic excellence, the university educates, empowers and enlightens its students by striving, at all times, to help them reach the highest levels of academic and professional achievement.

Now, as Haigazian University celebrates its 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I wish to salute the triumphs that mark its past, ensure its present prominence, and guarantee the bright future that surely lies ahead. I congratulate the Board of Trustees, the exceptional faculty and students, and, most of all, Haigazian University’s dedicated and visionary president, Rev. Dr. Paul Haidostian. All of you share a common faith in the strength and progress of Haigazian University, as I do, as well.

*\*Vartan Gregorian is President of the Carnegie Corporation of New York.*

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## Tribute to Haigazian University – 55 Years Strong

Peter Balakian\*

**I** write with great pleasure to pay tribute to Haigazian University on its 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

In the wake of the Armenian Genocide, one of the first places where an intense, energetic, and extraordinary Armenian Diaspora grew up was in Lebanon – with Beirut as its cultural center. In that cultural center, in which the Catholicosate of Cilicia was relocated from Sis after the Genocide, nothing could embody the continuity of Armenian intellectual

and academic tradition more deeply than the emergence of Haigazian University. Born out of the dream of higher education and three Armenian American visionaries, Stephen Philibosian and Steve and Mary Mehagian, and in the Armenian Evangelical tradition, Haigazian University has evolved over the more than half a century since its founding into a distinguished academic institution on the world map.

Haigazian’s commitment to higher education and intellectual excellence – to the humanities, social sciences, and sciences – continues a great and ancient Armenian cultural tradition – a tradition that begins with Mesrob Mashdots, Movses of Horen, Yeghishe, and other great Armenian intellectuals.

In 2005, I had the pleasure and the honor to be part of Haigazian’s 50th anniversary celebration. I found the classes I visited and the audiences I lectured to wonderful in every way – intellectually intense, cosmopolitan, and very talented. My hosts President Paul Haidostian and Dean Arda Ekmekji embodied the intellectual and cosmopolitan character of the university, and their generosity reflected the spirit of the institution. The beauty of the elegant grounds and buildings stays with me, as does the balmy night breeze off the Mediterranean.

What Haigazian has made happen in just 55 years is extraordinary and I know that what Haigazian will make happen in the next 55 will be more so. After the near annihilation of Armenia’s ancient civilization less than a century ago, I toast this important cultural institution for what it has done and for what it means to the spirit of Armenian vitality and rebirth.

*\*Peter Balakian is the Donald M. and Constance H. Rebar Professor of Humanities at Colgate University.*

## Open Call for Volunteers

The Armenian Children’s Milk Fund (ACMF) is planning to hold another event featuring Hoy Lari. This popular duo will once again present lively and entertaining Armenian children’s music in the Boston area on a date to be determined. If you are interested in volunteering to help plan this and other events, please contact the AMAA at (201) 265-2607 or amaa@amaa.org.

**The ACMF, an affiliate of the AMAA, was created to provide infant ISOMIL formula to children in Armenia after the devastating earthquake of 1988. Since 1989, the ACMF’s sustaining nutritional program has given thousands of Armenian children a healthy start in life. Various fundraising activities are held during the year to raise funds to ensure that this program continues to offer needed nutrition for these needy infants.**



## Medical Mission Team Travels to Armenia

During the first week of August, a medical mission team of 18, led by Dr. Al and Sue Phillips, staffed ambulatory clinics in Spitak and Stepanavan, Armenia. The team used the Armenian Missionary Association of America's (AMAA) pediatric clinic in Spitak and social service center in Stepanavan for their headquarters.

The medical mission team included two physicians, a physician's assistant, two nurses, a pharmacist, an ordained minister and eleven essential ancillary workers. Patients came from local neighborhoods and some were brought to the clinic by buses from outlying villages.

Over the course of the week, 522 patients were seen. This included 341 adults, 80 children and 101 patients who only required reading glasses. Common conditions included hypertension, diabetes and orthopedic problems. Free medications were brought from the United States and were dispensed when appropriate.

While waiting to be seen, children were taught Bible stories and participated in craft projects. Patients were encouraged to return each evening to attend services at local evangelical churches, where the good news of Jesus Christ was preached. Many were touched both physically and spiritually.

"During his ministry, Jesus often met the physical needs prior to addressing the spiritual needs of those He met," said Dr. Phillips. "We are committed to emulating His love in Armenia."

Dr. Philip's medical mission team has committed to return to Armenia in 2011. Volunteers, both medical and non-medical, Armenian and non-Armenian speaking, who are interested in serving our brothers and sisters, or who are interested in financially supporting the mission, may contact Dr. Phillips at [ajphillips@pol.net](mailto:ajphillips@pol.net). □



### Jeanmarie Papelian Recognized as Top Lawyer

Jeanmarie Papelian, Esq., Director and Shareholder at the McLane Law Firm, was recently recognized as one of Boston's Best Lawyers. Recognized for Family Law, Ms. Papelian is an experienced trial lawyer and Co-Chair of the Domestic Relations Practice Group. Thirty-one of her colleagues at McLane, which focuses on litigation, corporate and tax, employment and trust and estate law, were also recognized.

Ms. Papelian has a dual-state practice representing families across New England with complex pre-nuptial, domestic relation disputes and collaborative law issues. In addition, she is the chair of the Collaborative Law Alliance of New Hampshire, member of Massachusetts Collaborative Law Council and is the editor of A Practical Guide to Divorce in New Hampshire. Published in 2009, this guide is a groundbreaking new resource for family law practitioners.

Ms. Papelian is recognized in the Armenian community for her work as Chair of the Armenian Children's Milk Fund and as Vice President, Board of Directors of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA). □





# Help us get to class on time!

*"Schools will be open soon. While my friends will be excited to be in class, many like me will miss the first day of class and most probably miss school entirely this year. Reason? Our parents were unable to pay for registration and are uncertain where to get aid to pay for tuition. I can not blame them; they hardly make ends meet. Can you help?"*

October is back-to-school month in the Middle East, and the above is a statement heard loud and clear from an Armenian student.

Would you like to see all children in class on time and for the entire school year? Please respond to this urgent appeal.

The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) cares for hundreds of children in Lebanon and Syria making sure that they are given the opportunity to study hard and become our future doctors, lawyers, nurses, teachers, and social workers. By simply signing up for the AMAA's Child Education Sponsorship Program, you can be a partner and help one more child to be in school on time. You can choose from the pictures printed on this page or from the AMAA's sponsorship waiting list. It takes only a pledge of \$250 for the entire year.

Please join the AMAA Child Education Program and make a positive impact on the lives of these young children who are our future wealth in the world. □



**Hagop**



**Vart**



**Naya**



**Garo**



**Areni**



**Ardo**

## Child Achieves Success Through AMAA Sponsorship

Mariam Simonian of Yerevan is one of the 2,600 needy children from Armenia and Karabagh who are sponsored each year by the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA). A talented dancer, Mariam dances in the "Amberd" group of the Arabkir Cultural Center. Through the help provided by an AMAA sponsor, Mariam was able to participate in the Batumi Armenian Georgian Dancing Festival. Mariam won an award in the competition and sent a letter of thanks and appreciation to her sponsor.



**Mariam with Rev. Dr. René Léonian, AMAA's Representative in Armenia.**

There are many Mariams, Marthas, Marks and Mardirosses who have such God given talents, who, provided with the opportunity, can become great contributors to society.

We encourage you to sponsor such talented children by making a donation of \$250 per year for each child you sponsor. □

**Y**es, I want to sponsor \_\_\_\_ child(ren) and make sure he/she is in class on time.

Enclosed is my pledge or my contribution of

\$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please make tax-deductible checks payable to AMAA and mail to AMAA, 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652. To make a contribution with a credit/debit card, please visit AMAA's website at [amaa.org](http://amaa.org) or call AMAA at 201.265.2607.)



## Rev. Dr. Movses Janbazian Hall Dedicated in a Special Ceremony

On Sunday, August 18, on the occasion of the 70th Anniversary of the Armenian Village of Ainjar in Lebanon, a special ceremony was held at the Armenian Evangelical Secondary School (AES) to dedicate a newly renovated multipurpose hall in memory of Rev. Dr. Movses Janbazian, on the 10th anniversary of his passing. Rev. Megrdoch Karagoezian, President of the UAECNE, was present at the ceremony where the ribbon-cutting was done by Mrs. Sona Janbazian Koucharian, sister of Rev. Janbazian.

The new Janbazian Multipurpose Hall includes a sound system and LCD projector and will be used for workshops, lectures and other meetings as well as for a chapel for the elementary students.

Ainjar was the hometown of Rev. Dr. Janbazian, former Executive Director of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA). He received his elementary and high school education at the AES School of Ainjar. He was also a



member of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Ainjar and had served the congregation as a Sunday School teacher and a youth group director. □

## Sister Hanna Recognized For 60 Years of Service

On May 24-25 The Nunnery in Germany (the Frieden-short) recognized and acknowledged the Christian and social services of several nuns including Sister Hanna Christen. Members of the Nunnery, their family members, friends and guests were present. Sister Hanna gave her testimony and then presented her ministry in Lebanon, Syria and especially in Armenia. Rev. Dr. René Léonian had the honor and privilege of representing the Armenian Evangelical Churches worldwide, the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) and its Executive Director Levon Filian and, indirectly, all those Armenians who have been blessed by and benefitted from her services. In his address to the congregation, Rev. Léonian praised the Lord for the life of Sister Hanna, commended her for the faithful ministry and congratulated the Nunnery for nourishing the nuns, who follow the footprints of Christ, as did Sister Hanna.

Sister Hanna was a “mother” to hundreds of boarding school children who attended the Armenian Evangelical School in Ainjar. She taught music, puppetry, Bible classes, and most of all, how to serve the Lord cheerfully. □



*Sister Hanna Christen with Rev. Dr. René Léonian, AMAA's Representative in Armenia.*



## Rev. Krikor Youmshajekian's Closure of Ministry Service as Pastor of the Church in Sydney

On July 1, the ministry of Rev. Krikor Youmshajekian as Pastor of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Sydney, Australia was concluded. On Sunday, August 8, during a Worship Service of Thanksgiving, church members celebrated the 17 years of faithful service that Rev. Youmshajekian has provided to the church. The service also included a ceremony that officially marked his "Closure of Ministry." Rev. Youmshajekian will continue as a member of the congregation and will periodically deliver sermons until the impending arrival of the newly appointed Minister, Rev. Hagop Sarkissian.

Present at the Worship Service were the General Secretary of the NSW Synod of the Uniting Church of Australia (UCA) (the Rev. Dr. Andrew Williams), the Chairperson of the UCA Sydney North Presbytery (the Rev. Jane Fry), members of State Council, clergy and representatives of the Armenian Apostolic and Armenian Catholic churches, preachers of the local Evangelical brethren churches, the church congregation and the community at large.

Rev. Youmshajekian was presented with a plaque by the Church Deacon and a formal reception followed. □



*L to R: Rev. Dr. Andrew Williams-General Secretary of the NSW Synod of UCA, Rev. & Mrs. Krikor & Datevig Youmshajekian and Rev. Jane Fry-Chairperson of the UCA Sydney North Presbytery.*

## AMAA and UAF Sending Relief Aid to Armenia

The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) is a member of the United Armenia Fund (UAF). As one of the six leading Armenian-American charitable and religious organizations, it participates in providing humanitarian relief to Armenia.

The AMAA works closely with the UAF headquarters in Glendale, CA to assess and provide much needed help in Armenia. During the past fiscal year, the AMAA participated in several of the UAF air relief shipments. The most recent shipment was sponsored by Dr. Vartkes Najarian and his daughter, Maro Yacubian. The container was filled with clothing to be distributed to orphans and needy families in Karabagh. Thank You!

We take this opportunity to also thank the six organizations who participate in this relief effort. We thank the UAF leadership in Glendale. We also thank all of the donors, sponsors, government agencies and organizations who help in overseeing the proper distribution of the goods received in Armenia. □

### "Children Helping Children" Luncheon at Wellesley Country Club

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Children Helping Children luncheon will take place on Thursday, October 28 at a new location, the Wellesley Country Club, Wellesley, MA. This year's luncheon will feature performances by the students of St. Stephens Armenian Elementary School and the Armenian Sisters Academy. There will be both silent and live auctions, and a special guest host auctioning an array of exciting gift items, such as sports and concert tickets, jewelry and imported Armenian artwork. All proceeds from the event will be donated to the AMAA Orphan and Child Care Fund, to benefit needy children in Armenia. To purchase a ticket to the event, make a donation, or sponsor a child, contact Michele Simourian, 508-785-0569.

## AMAA will Honor Hon. Robert M. Morgenthau at its 91st Annual Meeting Banquet

This year at the Annual Banquet, the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) will honor a giant of government service and a faithful friend of the Armenian people: Hon. Robert M. Morgenthau.

For 35 years, Robert Morgenthau served as District Attorney of New York County, achieving such distinction that President Obama recently referred to him as “legendary.” During Mr. Morgenthau’s tenure, the murder rate in Manhattan went from a record high to a level lower than that ever measured in modern times.

Mr. Morgenthau was equally successful at prosecuting major frauds and political corruption. He secured convictions against corrupt politicians of both major political parties. His investigation of one of the biggest bank fraud cases of all times, the international Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI), led to some of the largest financial penalties ever secured.

Before becoming District Attorney, Robert Morgenthau served as United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York. He was a close associate of the Kennedy family, and was lunching with Attorney General Robert Kennedy when they received word of President Kennedy’s assassination in Dallas.

He has served as mentor to generations of idealistic public servants, including countless judges, a governor, and even one United States Supreme Court Justice: the Hon. Sonia Sotomayor. He has also been the longtime head of New York’s Police Athletic League, which under his leadership has become one of the most important private charities for children in New York.

Mr. Morgenthau is the grandson of Henry Morgenthau, Sr., who was US President Woodrow Wilson’s Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire. It was Ambassador Morgenthau who heroically attempted to summon the conscience of the world to the plight of the Armenian Christian minority during the Genocide of 1915. Countless Armenian families can tell how their “Uncle Henry” intervened personally to provide for their ancestors’ safe resettlement in America.

The memoir “Ambassador Morgenthau’s Story” remains one of the most important historical documents chronicling the deportation and murder of the entire population of Armenians in eastern Turkey, and is still frequently cited by genocide scholars.

The Morgenthau family remains faithful to this legacy, and Robert Morgenthau has appeared as a speaker at countless Genocide commemorations. His wife, Lucinda Franks, is a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist and writer.

Master of Ceremonies at the Banquet will be Peter Kougasian, who for 30 years served as an assistant district attorney under Robert Morgenthau. “It frankly has taken me 30 years to fully appreciate just how passionate Mr. Mor-

genthau is about the cause of justice for the Armenians,” Peter says. “Robert Morgenthau is simply a man of towering moral commitment. His dedication to the Armenian cause is but one illustration of his unflagging dedication to the ideal of justice.”

The Annual Meeting Banquet will be held Sunday afternoon, October 17 at 4:00 p.m. (social hour at 3:00 p.m.) at the Hackensack Golf Club, Soldier Hill Road, Oradell, NJ. The program will include a key note speech by the Hon. Robert Morgenthau, a musical interlude and will introduce the newly appointed Executive Director, Levon Filian. □



### AMAA 91st Annual Meeting and Related Activities

#### Friday, Oct. 15 - AMAA Headquarters, Paramus, NJ

9:30 a.m. .... ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL WORLD COUNCIL Meeting (for Council members only)  
12:30 p.m. .... LUNCH  
4:30 p.m. .... Strategic Planning (Board members only)  
7:00 p.m. .... DINNER  
8:00 p.m. .... AMAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

#### Saturday, Oct. 16 - AMAA Headquarters, Paramus, NJ

9:30 a.m. .... 91<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
12:30 p.m. .... AMAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (Short Session)  
12:30 p.m. .... LUNCH  
2:30 p.m. .... AEUNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

#### Sunday, Oct. 17 - Armenian Presb. Church, Paramus, NJ

11:00 a.m. .... 91<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL MEETING WORSHIP SERVICE AND INSTALLATION OF AMAA OFFICERS  
12:30 p.m. .... LIGHT LUNCH

#### Sunday, Oct. 17 - Hackensack Golf Club, Oradell, NJ

3:00 p.m. .... SOCIAL HOUR  
4:00 p.m. .... ANNUAL MEETING BANQUET Honoring the Hon. Robert M. Morgenthau

#### Monday, Oct. 18 - Armenian Presb. Church, Paramus, NJ

9:30 a.m. .... AEUNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING



## Rev. Barkev N. Darakjian Authors a New Book

By Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian

**ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL MOVEMENT—History, Faith and Mission** is the sixth volume from the pen of Rev. Barkev N. Darakjian, a highly respected veteran minister, a distinguished intellectual, and a former editor of four Armenian Evangelical publications. The book is an anthology of the author's scholarly lectures on the Armenian Evangelical Movement delivered or published on various occasions, as well as his erudite articles and editorials that have appeared in the *AEUNA Forum* during the past three decades.

Published by the Armenian Missionary Association of America, through the generosity of Drs. Nazareth and Ani Darakjian, and dedicated to his wife, Dr. Agnes Darakjian, this book consists of two parts: **Armenian Evangelical Movement** and **General Articles**, a total of 249 pages.

In the first part of this informative and instructive book, Rev. Darakjian moves through a series of interrelated essays exploring topics on the Armenian Evangelical Church. He calls on his broad knowledge of Armenian Evangelicalism past and present to provide new insights and illuminations.

The second part of the book covers a broad spectrum on spiritual, theological, social, patriotic, and community matters — blending an authentically biblical perspective with insights from personal experience, contemporary life, and Christian theologians and writers. The author is always respectful of the sacred text and always relevant to the needs of his readers.

I am confident that the readers of this book — American Armenians, Armenian Evangelicals and non-Evangelicals, clergy and laity alike — can read it with great pleasure and enduring profit.

To obtain a copy, please call AMAA at 201.265.2607 or e-mail: [amaa@amaa.org](mailto:amaa@amaa.org). Each book costs \$15.00. All proceeds from the book will go to Rev. & Mrs. Barkev Darakjian Endowment Fund at the AMAA.

[For a complete listing of our bookstore holdings please contact AMAA Book Service Department - 201.265.2607, or visit \[www.amaa.org\]\(http://www.amaa.org\).](#)



Asien Surmeyan of Los Angeles, CA with the booties that she knitted and donated to needy children in Armenia and Karabagh. Over the past several years, Asien has knitted several hundred booties, hats and scarves for the needy children. The AMAA thanks Mrs. Surmeyan for the love and care she has shown to our children in Armenia.

## Haigazian University Alumni and Women's Auxilliary

Will celebrate 55 years of academic excellence at a Gala Evening honoring former presidents, notable alumni and distinguished guests.

November 12, 2010  
at the Glendale Hilton, Glendale, CA

- Meet your friends and former University Presidents.
- Hear Dr. Manoug Manougian share his experience launching the 1st rocket made in Lebanon at Haigazian.
- Hear Dr. Paul Haidostian share many stories about your University.
- Hear Dr. John Markarian share his memoirs, remembering you!!!

All Auxilliary members, friends and alumni are encouraged to attend.

Please make your reservations by contacting  
[katiakermoyan@earthlink.net](mailto:katiakermoyan@earthlink.net)

## AEUNA General Assembly and AEYF Convention in Southfield, Michigan

This year, the AEUNA and the AEYF held their joint assembly/convention in Southfield, MI from July 8 through July 11, 2010. The churches and affiliated organizations were well represented by delegates and guests. Over 250 people registered for the convention, and 33 clergy, men and women represented the Union.

The Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit of Southfield, MI was the host church. The committee members organizing the event were: Pastor Makarios Darawi, Robert Kachadourian, Gayaneh Kachadourian, Harold Gant, Joyce Gant, Michael Mousigian, Cathy Brito, Jenny Jacobs, Hourig Jacobs, Garo Koundakjian, Ralph Garabedian, Frances Garabedian, and Leslie Banerian.

The theme for the convention was "Union in Christ." During the three day convention, the following topics were discussed: "Why I Love My Church" (Rev. Mike Mekredijian), "Why I Love the Union" (Rev. Nishan Bakalian), "Raising Godly Children" (Rev. Ara & Kim Heghinian, Greg & Laurel Sarian), "Short and Long Term Missions" (Rev. Ara Guekguezian & Searan Salibian), "Christian Integrity in the Workplace" (John & Diana Jamgotchian), "Why Do I Care About My Spiritual Maturity?" (Dr. Gilbert Bilezikian) and "Why We Need Vision" (Dr. Setrag Khoshafian). Friday evening's entertainment was provided by the Detroit area's Hamazkayin Dance Group.

There were special breakfast meetings for men and women. The women's breakfast featured a panel discussion with Maria Bakalian, Arpi Boynerian, Searan Salibian and Jenny Jacobs. The men's breakfast focused on the opportunity to meet our newest seminary graduates Haig Darakjian and Jeremy Tovmassian.

The business meetings covered success stories and challenges the Union faced in the past two years. The Union accepted the following four churches into the AEUNA: Christian Outreach for Armenians, Rev. Daniel Albarian; Holy Trinity Armenian Evangelical Church, Rev. Berdj Djambazian; Christ Armenian Church, Rev. Sako Khachikian; and Holy Trinity Armenian Church, Rev. Ara Chakerian.

The newly elected Board members for 2010-2011 are: Rev. Mgrdich Melkonian-Moderator, Phyllis Dohanian-Vice Moderator, Taleen DeArcangelis-Clerk, Zaven Khanjian-Treasurer, Nick Aynilian-Stewardship Committee, Andy Loussararian-Armenian Christian Heritage, Vahe Tcharkhoutian-Publication Committee, Rev. Jason Matossian-Evangelism Committee, Rev. Dr. Ara Heghinian-Ministry Committee, Jennifer Jacobs-Committee on Youth, Rev. Avedis Boynerian-Immediate Past Moderator. Members at large are: Rev. Sam Albarian, Rev. Georges Dabbo, Rev. Hrag Karagoezian, Rev. Mike Mekredijian, Roseann Saliba, and Rev. Hendrik Shahnazarian.

The gala banquet was held on Saturday night at the Church Hall. Over 300 guests attended the event. Mr. Robert Kachadourian was the master of ceremonies. Mr. Edward Salibia led a pictorial review of the late Rev. Karl Avakian, who served faithfully as a youth leader, pastor, and Minister to the Union during his ministry. Mr. Levon Filian, the Executive Director of the AMAA, was the keynote speaker. He spoke passionately about "Union in Christ." His theme was based on John 15:1-8 (the vine and the branches). He challenged everyone to be fully connected with the vine in order to bear (much fruit) and answer to God's call to serve Him. The guests congratulated Levon and Liliana on the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of their wedding, which coincided with the event. After the banquet, the youth enjoyed the music of a wonderful band and danced beautiful traditional Armenian circle dances.

On Sunday, the church was filled with over 200 believers. Rev. Makarios Darawi led the worship service. Rev. Nishan Bakalian and Rev. Mgrdich Melkonian gave the English and Armenian messages. Rev. Joe Matossian led the installation of the new Board members and Rev. Avedis Boynerian, the Moderator to the Union, officially closed the General Assembly.

We thank God for the opportunity to come together from all corners of the United States to worship Him and keep our Armenian Heritage alive. □





## Armenian Catholic Eparch Visits AEUNA

On July 22, His Eminence Bishop Manuel Batakian, Eparch of the Armenian Catholic Exarchate of New York, visited the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America (AEUNA) and met with Union representatives at the United Armenian Congregational Church in Los Angeles, CA. Accompanying the Eparch were the newly appointed Rector of Los Angeles, Very Rev. Father Krikor Shahinian, Vice Rector Very Rev. Father Armenag Bedrosian, and council members Vartan Missirian and Sevan Markarian. Representing the Union at this meeting were Rev. Joe Matossian, Minister to the Union, Rev's Barkev Darakjian and Berdj Jambazian, Board member Zaven Khanjian, Avedis DeMirjian, Dr. Hrair Atikian and Sona Khanjian. □



## Cilicia Church Celebrates Opening of New Dome

On Sunday, September 12, the Armenian Cilicia Evangelical Church held a special banquet to celebrate the construction of a new dome. This new architectural design at the entrance of the church was a much needed improvement for the church building. "People walking in will feel the presence of the Holy Spirit," said Mrs. Anahis Derian. This new construction was made possible through her generous donation in memory of her late husband, Mr. Henry Derian. Mrs. Derian has also been generous in her support for Haigazian University, Camp AREV and the AMAA.

The celebratory banquet was held after Church worship. Mr. Hagop Loussarian was the master of ceremonies. A slide show on the different phases of the construction was presented by the Architect, Mr. Noubar Aroyan. Rev. Kevork Terian expressed the Church's gratitude to those who also participated to support this project, including Arsen & Sonia Euredjian and Phil Mardirosian. Mrs. Derian shared her inspiring thoughts and encouraged others to continue to support the Lord's work. A ribbon-cutting ceremony later took place. The AMAA was represented at the celebration by its Field Director, Mr. Dikran Youmshakian. □



*Pictured L to R: Mrs. Anahis Derian Boulghourjian, Mr. Aram Boulghourjian and Rev. Kevork Terian.*

## Spiritual Corner

### Faith Measured by Empty Jars 2 Kings 4:1-8

by Dikran Youmshakian

The recent massive oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico created a huge environmental and economic crisis in the region. BP personnel and government agencies tried hard to control the spill. A cap placed on the oil well collected some of the oil and funneled it to tankers on the surface. The question was: "Were there enough empty tanks?" It took months until the spill was under control.

In 2 Kings 4, a widow lost her husband and was left with a huge debt. She cried for help. The prophet Elisha asked her to collect empty jars from the neighbors and pour the little oil she had into the jars. She did. As long as there were empty jars, the oil continued to flow. **Only when there were no more jars, the oil stopped. One would wish this was the case with the oil spill in the Gulf. Unfortunately, the oil continued to flow regardless of the number of empty tanks.**

Unlike the oil in the Gulf, God's blessings are proportional to the empty jars, as the miracle in 2 Kings explains. God's blessings are dependent on faith, and faith in the widow's case was measured by the number of empty jars she had.

God has blessed us all and will continue to do so as long as we have faith. For us to enjoy His blessings, we need to have enough faith regardless of the circumstances. Faith is measured by empty jars. We need to empty ourselves from everything that is **worldly and ungodly and totally rely on Him who is the source of everything we have. Then He will fill us with His oil – His blessings.** □

# Ամառնային Ճամբարներու Համագումարներն Ու Անոնց Բարիքները

**Վեր. Յովհաննէս Սարմազեան\***

Ամառուայ երկար արձակուրդի այս եղանակը, յաճախ կը յիշեցնէ ինծի հին օրերու այն համագումարները, որ կ'ունենայինք Բեսապի շրջանի եւ երբեմն ալ Պէյրութի ՔՁԱԿ կոչուած ամառնային կեդրոններուն մէջ:

Ամառուայ ճամբարային այդ համագումարները ընդհանրապէս տեղի կ'ունենային երեք տարբեր տարիքի յատուկ տղոց եւ աղջիկներու համար: Առաջինը կը կոչուէր Մանուկներու Համագումար, 6-12 տարեկան, երկրորդը՝ Պատանեաց Համագումար, 12-14 տարեկան, իսկ երրորդը՝ Զանից Երիտասարդներու Համագումար, 17 տարեկանէն վեր եղող տղոց եւ աղջիկներու յատուկ համագումար:

Մասնակցած ըլլալով այդ ամառնային ճամբարներու համագումարներուն, թէ որպէս անդամ, (եւ աւելի ուշ) թէ որպէս առաջնորդ, շատ լաւ գիտեմ եւ զգացած եմ անձնապէս իմ փորձառութեամբս, թէ որքա՛ն մեծ օրհնութիւն եղած են ինծի այդ համագումարները իմ հոգեւոր կեանքի նուիրումիս մէջ:

Մեր նոր սերունդներուն բրիստոնէական դաստիարակութիւն ջամբելու համար, Հայ Աւետարանական եկեղեցիներու ստեղծած ամառնային ճամբարներու այդ համագումարներու դրութիւնը, ինքնին՝ իսկապէս իւրայատուկ եւ մեծապէս օգտակար եւ օրհնաբեր դպրոց մը կարելի է նկատել, մանաւանդ երբ այդ ճամբարային համագումարները լաւ ծրագրուած եւ հաւատացեալ՝ պատրաստուած առաջնորդներով կը ղեկավարուին:

Ուրախ եմ այստեղ յիշելու, թէ մեր հայրենիքի մէջ, Հայ Աւետարանական Ընկերակցութիւնը, անդրադառնալով ամառնային ճամբարներու այդ համագումարներուն խիստ կարեւոր եւ օգտակար եւ օրհնաբեր ըլլալուն, կարգ մը շրջաններու մէջ ճամբարներ կառուցանած են, եւ մեծ թիւով մանուկներ, պատանիներ եւ երիտասարդներ կը մասնակցին ճամբարային այդ համագումարներուն,

եւ իսկապէս կազդուրուած՝ մարմինով, մտքով եւ հոգիով, կը վերադառնան իրենց ընտանիքներուն:

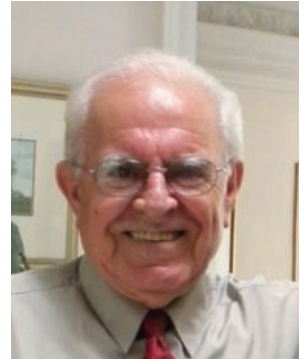
Պատահեցաւ որ անգամ մը ներկայ գտնուիմ, հայրենիքի մէջ Աւետարանականին կողմէ հիմնադրուած այդ ճամբարներէն մէկուն մէջ: Իսկապէս յուզիչ էր տեսնել այդ անմեղ մանուկներուն, մեծ խանդավառութեամբ, հոգեւոր երգեր երգելն ու Աստուածաշունչէն անգիր հատուած արտասանելը: Նոյնպէս անոնց մաշէն առաջ եւ ետք, կատարած խմբային աղօթքները, խիստ տպաւորիչ էին:

Հիւսիսային Ամերիկայի Հայ Աւետարանական Ընկերակցութիւնը, ամէն տարի՝ ամառուայ սկիզբը երբ կոչ կ'ընէ մեր եկեղեցիներուն, մեր նիւթական նուէրները տալու մեր հայրենիքի մէջ կատարուող ճամբարներուն՝ այդ համագումարներուն համար, որքա՛ն լաւ պիտի ըլլայ, որ այդ կոչը լուրջ նկատողութեան առնուի, եւ իւրաքանչիւր եկեղեցի իր լաւագոյնը ընէ, ճամբարներու այդ համագումարներուն ծախսերը հոգալու համար:

Ճամբարներու այդ համագումարները, ինչպէս ըսուեցաւ, իւրայատուկ դպրոց մը կը նկատուին, ուր մեր նոր սերունդի զաւակները միշտ ժամանակին կը վարժուին ընկերային կեանքի, եւ մանաւանդ փրիստոնէական դաստիարակութիւն ստանալով, հոգեւոր փորձառութիւն կ'ունենան, այդպէս կանուխ տարիքի մէջ Քրիստոսը մանչնալու եւ Զայն իրենց կեանքի Տէրն ու Փրկիչը ընդունելու:

Աստուած աւելիով օրհնութիւն դարձնէ (հայրենիքէն ներս կամ անկէ դուրս) բոլոր ճամբարներու մէջ կատարուող այդ հոգեւոր համագումարները, մեր նոր սերունդի զաւակներուն, եւ իր փառքին համար: □

*\*Վեր. Յովհաննէս Սարմազեան Հովին է Գէյմպրիի (Օնթարիո, Գանատա) Հայ Աւետարանական եկեղեցիին:*





# Հարսանեկան Հանդերձներով

Վեր. Մկրտիչ Մելքոնեան\*

**Դ**արերով շարունակ հսկայ հակասություն մը կը տեսնենք եկեղեցիին մէջ: Աստուածաշունչին մէջ եկեղեցին բնութագրուած է որպէս Աստուծոյ ժողովուրդը, Յիսուս Քրիստոսի սրտանց հաւատացողներ, Սուրբ Հոգիով առաջնորդուած միաբանութիւն ունեցող հաւաքականութիւն մը: Երբ գործնական եւ իրական կեանքի մէջ այցելենք եկեղեցի եւ տեղեկանանք անոնց վարք ու բարքին, գործելակերպին եւ ընթացքին, հսկայ հակասություն մը կը գտնենք այդտեղ: Ինչ որ եկեղեցին կը հռչակէ եւ ինչ որ եկեղեցին գործնականօրէն է, շատ տարբեր եւ նոյնիսկ հակասական են:

Երբ լրջօրէն մտածենք այս հակասութեան պատճառներուն մասին եւ ուզենք ժամանակ տրամադրել սերտելու այս հարցը, յստակօրէն պիտի տեսնենք, թէ Աստուածաշունչին մէջ սահմանուած եւ նկարագրուած եկեղեցիի մտապատկերը ոչ մէկ անտրամաբանական խորհուրդ ունի: Եկեղեցին, Աստուծոյ յաւիտեանական ծրագիրին մէջ անսահման իմաստութեամբ կարգադրութիւն մըն է, որ Իր Միածին Որդիին խաչելութեամբ կը հրաիրէ Աստուծոյ փառքէն պակաս եւ մեղքի մէջ ընկղմած մարդկութիւնը նոր ստեղծագործութիւն, Աստուծոյ ընտանիք եւ սուրբ քաղաքացի ըլլալու:

Եկէք, փոխանակ բնականաբար ուրիշ տեղ փնտռելու սխալը, մենք մեզ ինքնաքննութեան ենթարկենք եւ նայինք, թէ ո՞վ է եւ ո՞ր է եկեղեցին Աստուծոյ խօսքին լոյսին տակ, այսինքն Աստուծոյ չափանիշներով: Աւետարան ըստ Մատթեոսի 22րդ գլոյսին մէջ բաւական յստակ եւ սակայն խորունկ առակով մը Յիսուս կը մեկնաբանէ այս հարցը, երբ Իր մահուրէն քիչ առաջ, տաճարին մէջ քահանայապետներուն, ժողովուրդին ծերերուն, դպիրներուն եւ Իր հետեւորդներուն, Երկինքի Թագաւորութեան մասին կը խօսի:

Առակին մէջ բացայայտ է, թէ թագաւորը զԱստուած կը ներկայացնէ, Թագաւորին Որդին՝ Յիսուս Քրիստոսը, հարաւ՝ եկեղեցին եւ հարսանիքի ընթրիքը՝ Աստուծոյ Թագաւորութիւնը, ուրախութեան, խաղաղութեան եւ երջանկութեան յաւիտեանական կեանք:

Պատմութեան մէջ եւ ներկայիս, անպակաս են մարդիկ, որոնք մեծ հպարտութեամբ եւ իրենք զիրենք շատ իմաստուն նկատելով, տակաւին չեն գիտեր ինչ պատճառաբանութիւններով ուղղակիօրէն մերժած են «Հարսանիքի» հրաւերը եւ իրենց կեանքը ապրած են Աստուծմէ եւ եկեղեցիէն հեռու: Յիսուս Քրիստոս սակայն, առակը չի վերջացներ այստեղ: Կը խորհիմ, թէ առակին ամենէն հետաքրքրական մասը ասկէ ետք է, երբ թագաւորը հարսանիքի կու գայ հարսներուներուն հետ ուտել-խմելու, զուարճանալու եւ միասին կեանք ապրելու, կը տեսնէ մէկը, որ հարսանիքի հանդերձ հագած չէ: Թագաւորը, ինչպէս նաեւ բոլոր հարսներուները, աննկատ եւ անտարբեր չեն մնար այս անտովոր, արտակարգ եւ նոյնիսկ տգեղ երեւոյթին: Ան կը մօտենայ անոր եւ կ'ըսէ. «Ինչո՞ւ

հոս ես, առանց հարսանիքի հանդերձի»:

Ծիշդ է, որ արտակարգ արարք է, ըսենք, յուղարկաւորութեան երթալ գունաւոր կամ դաշտագնացութեան յատուկ զգեստներով, կամ՝ սրբազան համերգի մը երթալ առանց փողկապի եւ վերարկոյի: Բայց եկէք ջանանք հասկնալ եւ բացատրել առանց հարսանիքի հանդերձի հարսանիքի գացող մարդուն միտքին մէջ դարձող խորհուրդները: Այս մարդը յանդուգն ձեւով չ'ուզեր ընդունիլ ընկերութեան սովորութիւններն ու հարսանեկան օրէնքները: Ան կը խորհի, թէ անիմաստ օրէնսդիրին տրամաբանութիւնը, անմիտ են կոչօրէն հնազանդողները եւ ինք անպայմանօրէն կ'ուզէ ներկայ գտնուիլ այդ հարսանիքին, բայց իր պայմաններով:

Կ'ըսուի, թէ ժամանակին, երբ հարսանեկան հրաւեր կը ստանային մարդիկ, նաեւ հարսանիքի վերարկոյի նման հանդերձ մը կը ստանային, որպէսզի հարսանիքի եկողները կոկիկ եւ ներկայանալի ըլլային: Սակայն, այս առակին մէջի մարդը, չ'ընդունիր հարսանիքի հրաւիրողին հանդերձը հագուիլ... այլ՝ իր արդարութիւնը հագած կու գայ...

Քանիներ կը գտնենք այսօր, որոնք հարսանիքի կու գան, կ'ուզեն Աստուծոյ Թագաւորութիւնը եւ անոր բոլոր ճոխ օրհնութիւնները վայելել, բայց ոչ Աստուծոյ եւ Աստուածաշունչի չափանիշներուն եւ օրէնքներուն հետեւելով, այլ իրենց պայմանները պարտադրելով...

Հետաքրքրական է այս մարդուն պատասխանը թագաւորին: Աստուածաշունչը կ'ըսէ. «Անիկա պապանձեցաւ...», որովհետեւ չէր կրնար առարկել, թէ մէկը չըսաւ իրեն, որ հարսանիքի հանդերձները անհրաժեշտ են հարսանիքի գալու: Չէր կրնար առարկել կամ որեւէ պատճառաբանութիւն գտնել, որովհետեւ նոյնիսկ հարսանիքի մտած ատեն (եկեղեցիի անդամ եղած ատեն) ինքզինք պարտադրած էր եւ այս թէ այն բանի ուժով յաջողած էր հարսանիքի մտնել...: Հետեւաբար պապանձեցաւ:

Որովհետեւ Աստուած արդար Աստուած է, սիրով լեցուն, ուրախութեան ինչ-ինչ պատրաստութիւններ կատարած լաւ հարսանիքի խնճոյքի եւ ուրախակից ըլլալու, քէչք ընելու եկող այս թագաւորը յանկարծ կը փոխուի արդար դատաւորի մը, որուն քով ոչ մէկ անարդարութեան նշոյլ չկայ եւ կը վճռէ այդ մարդուն անփոփոխելի պատիժը:

Յարգելի ընթերցող, հաճիս «հարսանեկան հանդերձները» հագուիլ'...: □

\* Վեր. Մկրտիչ Մելքոնեան հովին է Ֆրէզնոյի Առաջին Հայ Երիցական Եկեղեցիին եւ նորընտիր Ատենապետը Ամերիկայի Հայ Աւետարանական Միութեան:



## Arthur M. Halvajian

Arthur M. Halvajian, commercial builder, real estate developer and a director of Eastern Regional Medical Outreach for Armenians, Inc., passed away at the age of 76 on July 26, 2010 in Ridge-wood, NJ.



Son of the late Mihran and Azniv Halvajian, Arthur was a graduate of Teaneck High School in NJ and an Army veteran of the Korean War. He worked as a photo engraver and a mortgage broker before venturing into commercial real estate development in the 1960s. His commercial endeavors included building the Mall at IV in Paramus and Mall I in Philadelphia.

His philanthropic efforts included bringing 400 children from Armenia to the United States for life-saving surgery; the first group were victims of the 1988 earthquake. He then focused on children with congenital heart disease. He expedited the training of Armenian physicians in the US, facilitated the establishment of the Children's Cardiac Center of Armenia in Yerevan, and helped build Nork Marash Medical Center in Armenia, which provided free heart surgery to over 5,000 children. He was awarded Special Honors by the Eastern Regional Medical Outreach for Armenians in 1994 at the United Nations and the Humanitarian Award by the National Kid Construction Club in 2004.

Arthur is survived by his wife, Array; son A.J.; daughter Alien; and his sister, Alice Parseghian. □

## Lucy Manoushagian

Lucy (Loucine) Manoushagian died on March 25, 2010 at the age of 72 in New York City. Daughter of the late Hovhannes and Sirvart Manoushagian, Lucy worked at the United Nations for 21 years. She was born August 31, 1937 in Jaffa, Palestine.



Lucy was educated at the local Armenian Elementary School in Jaffa until the 1948 Arab-Israeli disturbances when the family was forced to escape to Beirut, Lebanon. She attended the Armenian Central High School in Beirut and the Beirut College for Women. She worked as a secretary for the UNRWA in Beirut until moving to the United States in the 1960s. At the United Nations, she worked in

the Medical and Political Departments, and, prior to her retirement in 1997, in the Palestinian Mission. She traveled extensively for business as well as pleasure and had the opportunity to meet Pope John Paul II, Kurt Waldheim and Yassir Arafat.

Following her retirement, Lucy volunteered at the United Nations and assisted with a number of fundraising events. She also volunteered at the New York City Senior Citizen's Center.

A memorial service was held April 4, 2010 in New York City. She is survived by her sister Helen Koehnke and brother Harverj Manoushagian, and nieces and nephews. □

## Henry M. Mouradian, DDS

Henry H. Mouradian, D.D.S. of Ticonderoga, NY died on July 21, 2010 at the age of 105 after a short illness.



Born in Aintab, Turkey on March 12, 1905, he was the son of Haroutune and Mariam (Koumrian) Mouradian. He attended the German Elementary School and the American University in Beirut, Lebanon. In 1920, when the family emigrated to the United States. Dr. Mouradian graduated from the New York University College of Dentistry in 1929. He practiced in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn until 1973 and then practiced in Ticonderoga, NY until his retirement in 1985. Dr. Mouradian was a life member of the Fourth District Dental Society and the New York Dental Association.

Dr. Mouradian, who spoke six languages, loved to travel and visited 37 countries on five continents. He and his wife, Joyce, went on a Medical Mission with the Christian Medical Society to the Dominican Republic in 1970 and to Taiwan in 1975. He was also fond of music, in particular chorale music. He and his wife were among the founders of the Champlain Valley Chorale of Ticonderoga in 1976.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Joyce; a son, William Mouradian, M.D. of Palos Verde, CA; a daughter, Wendy Mouradian Dethier, M.D. of Bellevue, WA; a sister, Grace Kilarjian of Freeport, NY; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; a nephew; nieces and cousins.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. The family requested that memorial gifts be made to the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) or to the First United Methodist Church, Wicker Street, Ticonderoga, NY 12883, where Dr. Mouradian and his wife were active members. □

## Sam A. Muradian

Sam A. Muradian, patriarch of the Kingsburg CA Armenian community, passed away on July 25, 2010 in Kingsburg at the age of 96.



Born in Kingsburg to Murad and Yevkin Muradian, Sam and two of his siblings received the sacrament of baptism from Dr. George C. Raynolds, legendary medical missionary to the Armenians of Van from 1970 to the time of the Genocide.

A gifted farmer and gardener, Sam sowed the seeds of the Christian faith for nine decades as an Elder of the early Armenian Martyrs' Presbyterian Church of Kingsburg and as Deacon of the First Armenian Presbyterian Church, Fresno CA. He served as a Director of the Armenian Theological Students' Aid, Inc. a scholarship organization and was a faithful supporter of the AMAA.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Dora Esajian, and his brothers James and Lem. He is survived by his daughter Carolyn Taber and her husband Alton; daughter Linda Palm and her husband Stan; and son James Muradian, and his wife Norma; seven grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren, and seven great-great-grandchildren. The family requested that donations be made to the Armenian Missionary Association of America. □

## Ann R. Messerlian Ohanesian

Ann R. Messerlian Ohanesian passed away at the age of 90 on June 20, 2010 in Providence, RI.

Born in Cranston, RI, she was the daughter of the late Harry and Esquhy (Tashjian) Messerlian. In 1976, Ann co-founded with her son, David, Cosmic Pizza on Post Road in Warwick. She was also a former pianist at Zion Gospel Temple in East Providence.

She was predeceased by her husband, the late Vaughn Ohanesian, and her sisters and brothers Victoria Movsesian, Perina Kaylarian, and John, Charles and Swan Messerlian. She was the devoted mother of Renee A. Lizotte and her husband, Ron, and David Ohanesian, all of Cranston. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Marissa Lizotte and Davina Ohanesian.

A funeral service was held on June 23 at the Armenian Euphrates Evangelical Church in Providence. Donations may be made in her memory to the Armenian Missionary Association of America. □



## Marie Mahshigian Sarmazian

Marie Mahshigian Sarmazian passed away at the age of 77 on June 16, 2010 in Latakia, Syria. The daughter of the late Movses and Beatrice Mahshigian, she was the wife of the late Rev. Hovannes (Hanna) Sarmazian.



Rev. Hanna Sarmazian, who passed away in 1999 in Kessab, Syria, had served as pastor of Keorkuneh (Kessab), Homs and the Bethel Church in Aleppo, Syria. Marie helped her husband in the church's Sunday School and served as a volunteer for the Church School and Bible Study. She was very active with the church ladies and the Armenian Community. She enjoyed decorating cakes for special occasions and taught a class in cake decorating. Marie is survived by her two children and two grandchildren. □

## Ellen Sagherian

Ellen Olga Sagherian passed away at age 88 on August 18, 2010 in Beirut.



Born on September 15, 1921 in Basingstoke, England, she was the daughter of Rev. Sisag and Marika Manougian. Her father was invited by missionaries to address the British Parliament regarding the plight of the Armenians during and after the genocide. Ellen grew up in Aleppo, Syria and later moved to Beirut where she attended the British school.

She married Rev. Hagop Sagherian in 1946 and they were blessed with four children. Together they served the Armenian Evangelical churches in Nicosia and Larnaca in Cyprus for 8 years, the First Church in Beirut, and the Armenian Evangelical Church of Ashrafieh where she also served as deaconess.

Ellen received Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior at the age of 9 and at the age of 14 renewed her commitment to follow Christ at all costs. As she grew in her faith she became very burdened for the souls of others, especially children. She was instrumental in bringing Child Evangelism Fellowship to Beirut. It was through her ministry with CEF that she introduced the gospel to her children who received Jesus as their Savior at a young age.

She was a godly woman with a practical faith: through daily time with her Lord in His Word; through praying for family, people

in her church and community; and through service - caring for others and visiting those in need. She enjoyed singing in the choir, sang solos in church and instilled the love of music in her children and grandchildren. Her practical faith resulted in her attitude of forgiveness, trying to bring people together for reconciliation. She took every opportunity to share the gospel with others.

She is survived by her children: John and his wife Nancy, Knar Bahadourian and her husband Diran, Pauline, Pastor Calvin and his wife Janine; 8 grandchildren, and 2 sisters, Rhoda and Jane; as well as her sister-in-law Iola Manoogian. □

## Աննա Նագուպեան Բալուկեան

Ծնած է 1930-ին Հալեպ, Մկրտիչ եւ Խաթուն Նագուպեաններու կրտսեր զաւակը: Ծոռն է Զէյթունի չորս իշխաններէն՝ Մկրտիչ Նագուպեանի: Յանձնած է Հալեպի Հայկազեան վարժարանը, որմէ ետք գացած է Կիպրոսի Մելքոնեան Երկրորդական վարժարանը: Հայաստան ներգաղթի պատճառաւ կիսաւարտ կը վերադառնայ Հալեպ: 1949-ին կ'ամուսնանայ Գեւորգ Բալուկեանի հետ: Կ'ունենան երեք զաւակներ՝ Վարդուհի, Վարուժան եւ Մարալ եւ 8 թոռներ: 1960-ին Հալեպէն կը գաղթեն Պէյրութ, ուր բաւական ատեն քաղաքական պատերազմի վնասները կրելէ ետք կ'որոշեն գաղթել Ամերիկայի Փալիֆորնիա նահանգը, հետեւելով իրենց զաւակաց:

Ամերիկայի մէջ հանգուցեալը կ'ուզէ շարունակել Հալեպէն սկսած իր ազգային Հ.Մ.Ը.Մ.-ական գործը, սակայն ամուսնոյն հիւանդութեան պատճառաւ չի կրնար:

Ամուսնոյն մահէն ետք կը լծուի գործի եւ կ'ըլլայ Հայ Օգնութեան Միութեան Սօսէ մասնագիտի անդամ եւ երկու շրջաններ կը վարէ միութեան ատենապետութիւնը: Աւելի քան քսան տարիներ ծրագրեալ եւ սրտանց աշխատող մը եղած է:

2004-ին Աննա Բալուկեանի առողջական վիճակը կը սկսի վատթարանալ եւ անողոք Ալզայմըր հիւանդութիւնը կը սկսի մաշեցնել իր մարմինը, աստիճանաբար դատապարտելով զինք անկողնի:

Սեպտ. 4, 2010-ի կէսօրէ ետք ժամը 1-ին Աննա յաւիտեական կը բաժնի իր աշխարհը, հանդարտ եւ ծայտուն դիմագիծով:

Աննայի համար կային երեք կարեւոր նշանաբաններ՝ ընտանիք, եկեղեցի եւ ազգ: Ան միշտ պահած էր իր ընտանիքը սիրով միասին, յարգելով բոլոր հայկական աւանդական եւ եկեղեցական սովորութիւնները:

Թող Աստուած իր հոգին արքայութեան արժանացնէ եւ իր հարազատներուն տայ Սուրբ Հոգւոյն միօրարութիւնը ու միտ վառ մնայ իր յիշատակը: □

The AMAA Board of Directors and staff also wish to extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the following deceased friends whose names were submitted to us for publication in the AMAA NEWS.

**Ms. Magda Abadjian**

*Brussels, Belgium*

**Mrs. Adrina Baligian**

*Johnston, RI*

**\* Mrs. Veronica Margaret Minasian**

*Baum Mesa, AZ*

**Mr. Vartivar Cholakian**

*Beirut, Lebanon*

**Mr. Richard Habib**

*Fresno, CA*

**Mr. Harold Manselian**

*Fresno, CA*

**Mr. John P. Merjanian**

*Everett, VA*

**\* Ms. Elizabeth (Betty) Oolovgian**

*PA*

**\* Mrs. Anna Palouljian**

*Pasadena, CA*

**Dr. Haig Rushdoony**

*Danville CA*

**Mr. Sahak Saraydarian**

*Syosset, NY*

**Rev. Fr. Vahrich Shirinian**

*Emerson, NJ*

**\* Mrs. May Simsarian**

*Fort Lee, NJ*

\* Memorials designated for AMAA



**Armenian Missionary Association of America**  
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## **AMAA Armenia Summer Camp/Christmas Committee**

**Invites You to Celebrate**

*Christmas  
in  
October*



*Children celebrating Christmas in Pureghavan, Armenia*

**Help Bring the Joy and Celebration of Christmas to  
thousands of needy children in Armenia and Karabagh**

**Please sponsor as many Christmas packages as you can and mail your donation to the AMAA.  
Each child's package costs \$10.00. For further info please call Louisa Janbazian at AMAA at 201.265.2607.**

***Thank you for your continued support!***



Yes, I would like to provide a blessed Christmas season for orphans and needy children in Armenia and Karabagh.

Enclosed is my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ children's Christmas Joy Packages and celebration.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please make tax-deductible checks payable to AMAA - earmarked for Christmas Joy Packages - and mail to AMAA, 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652. To make a contribution with a credit/debit card, please visit AMAA's website at [amaa.org](http://amaa.org) or call AMAA at 201.265.2607.)

**"As you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me." Matt. 25:40**